

## A SUPPLEMENTARY DESCRIPTION OF CERASTIUM ARVENSE WEBBII JENNINGS.

OTTO E. JENNINGS.

In the OHIO NATURALIST, about a year ago, the writer described as new var. *Webbii* of *Cerastium arvense* L. Recently my friend, Mr. Roscoe J. Webb, of Garrettsville, Ohio, for whom the variety was named, has sent to us for further examination some excellent specimens of the plant, collected by him on June 25, 1909, at the type locality, along the gorge of the Rocky River, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. The type specimens lacked ripe pods and the original description was in that respect deficient, but in the specimens now at hand the inflorescence contains all stages from flower buds to dehiscent pods and it is now possible to give a more complete description of the variety, as follows:

*Cerastium arvense Webbii* Jennings. Similar or somewhat taller than varieties *oblongifolium* and *villosum*, our specimens now ranging from about 3.5 to 5 dm. in height, the larger plants often decumbent for a distance of 1 dm. or more at the base, more or less densely pubescent, especially above, where there is often much glandular pubescence. Leaves oblong-lanceolate below to ovate-lanceolate above, the latter attaining a size of 1.2 cm. wide by 6 cm. long, all sub-acute to obtuse and somewhat paler below, the leaves of the sterile shoots being somewhat smaller and varying from oblong-lanceolate to linear-elliptic, the floral bracts being similar to the sepals in shape and size, and viscid-pubescent. Cyme strict to rather widely branched at maturity; pedicels stiff, 1 to 4 cm. long, at the apex abruptly bent so that the pod becomes more or less cernuous. Sepals narrowly oval, acute to somewhat obtuse, white-scarious margined, about 2 mm. wide by 6 mm. long. Petals about 1 cm. long by 5 mm. wide, obovate, the apex emarginate to the depth of about 1.5 mm. Pods cylindric, 2.5 to 3 mm. in diameter, 1 to 1.5 cm. long, arcuate with the apex curved upwards, yellowish white, lustrous, the teeth in dehiscence erect, about 1 mm. long, narrowly acuminate. Seeds reddish-brown, flattened-globose-reniform with a very narrow sinus, quite roughly papillose, about 0.8 mm. in diameter.

This variety, as exemplified by the specimens now at hand, has the longer pods of variety *oblongifolium* with the more dense villous-pubescent of *villosum* and is almost as densely viscid-pubescent as is the typical *Cerastium vulgatum* L. In fact, it almost appears as though there might be here a case of hybridism, the intergradation being so complete.

Carnegie Museum, January, 1910.